

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of claims in this application.

Claims 1-5 (canceled).

6. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system for ships and other mobile marine structures, comprising:

a driving machine;

a synchronous, permanent magnet electrical generator having an electrical output and a plurality of poles, powered directly by the driving machine;

a synchronous, permanent magnet electrical propulsion motor having a plurality of poles, powered by the output of the electrical generator, with a fixed and direct electrical connection thereto; and

a propulsion device operated by a mechanical connection to the electrical propulsion motor,

the electrical generator and the electrical propulsion motor having operating characteristics which are substantially the same.

7. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 6, having a ratio between the number of poles in the generator and the number of poles in the propulsion motor of 3:1 to 1:20.

8. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 7, wherein the generator has fewer poles than the propulsion motor.

9. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system

according to claim 6, wherein the output of the electrical generator is additionally connected to a branch circuit for feeding a consumption network, a frequency converter being provided between the output and the branch circuit to provide a stable frequency from the generator.

10. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 6, additionally comprising an auxiliary generator powered by the driving machine for feeding a consumption network, a frequency converter being provided between the auxiliary generator and the consumption network.

11. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 6, wherein the driving machine is a speed-adjustable combustion engine.

12. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 11, wherein the engine is a diesel engine or gas turbine engine.

13. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 6, wherein the generator has six poles, yielding 50 Hz at 1000 rpm.

14. (currently amended) A propulsion ~~Propulsion~~ system according to claim 13, wherein the propulsion motor has 24 poles.